

REMARKS

Reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action of November 30, 2006, the Examiner sustained the rejection of claims 9 and 18-20, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being anticipated by Lynch '423 (U.S. Patent No. 5,438,423) in view of Miki '481 (U.S. Patent No. 5,107,481).

By this Amendment, claims 9 and 18 have been amended to provide a clearer presentation of the claimed subject matter and new claims 21-22 have been added. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced. As such, claims 9 and 18-22 are currently presented for examination of which claims 9, 18, 21, and 22 are independent claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the prior art rejections, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), for the following reasons.

I. Prior Art Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

As recited in amended claims 9 and 18, an input signal is configured to be recorded as a video object (VOB) in unit of a video object unit (VOBU) including a real-time data information pack (RDI pack) which is located at a leading portion of the video object unit (VOBU) and includes information indicating a start time of the video object unit. (Support is shown in the specification at, for example, page 14, lines 9-13.) Therefore, in the method of amended claim 9, storage processing of data corresponding to the video object (VOB) is commenced when a predetermined storage mode is set, and a Fast Forward operation or a Fast Reverse operation is effected in the reproducing processing of the video object (VOB) when a time slip mode is entered and subsequent reproducing processing is performed. In the apparatus of amended claim 18, a fourth section is configured to enter a time slip mode that enables reproduction of the video objection (VOB) corresponding to the input signal being recorded or compensates for information of a period in which a temporary interruption, and to effect a Fast Forward operation or a Fast Reverse operation in reproducing processing of the reproduction section. (Support is shown at, for example, page 25, line 16 to page 26, line 3 of the specification.)

According to the embodiments provided in the rewritten description, after the time slip mode (TS mode) is entered (yes at C1 of Fig. 6), cell production processing C4 (corresponding to Figs. 7 and 8) is started. In the cell reproducing processing of Fig. 7, after data transfer is started and before it is ended (yes at D7 and no at D10 of Fig. 7, and page 24, line 17 to page 25, line 8,) a Fast Forward or a Fast Reverse operation of the time slip may be performed (yes at D13 or yes at D14 of Fig. 8, page 26, line 21 to page 28, line 9.) Furthermore, during the operation of the time slip, video object VOB having the data structure of Fig. 2 is used (page 25, lines 2-8.) Consistent with this, the claimed invention incorporates the use of VOB in the time slip mode wherein the VOB comprises VOBUs including an RDI pack which should have real-time data of VOB start time (and VOB recording time.)

In contrast to the Examiner's assertions, neither Lynch nor Miki teaches or suggests commencing recording of the input signal using the video object unit (VOBU) including the real-time data information pack (RDI) pack, when a predetermined storage mode is set, commencing storage processing of data corresponding to the video object, and when the time slip mode is entered and subsequent reproducing processing is performed, effecting a Fast Forward operation or a Fast Reverse operation in the reproducing processing of the video object (VOB), as recited in amended claim 9, and similarly recited in amended claim 18. Indeed, neither Lynch nor Miki discloses the idea of using VOB in the time slip mode wherein the VOB comprises VOBUs including an RDI pack which has real-time data of VOB start time.

Accordingly, as none of Lynch and Miki teaches or suggests the feature of VOB, it would not have been obvious for one skilled in the art to combine these two references to achieve the invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of amended claims 9 and 18 should be withdrawn and these claims should be patentable over Lynch in view of Miki.

As to the rejection of dependent claims 19 and 20, Applicants respectfully submit that they are also patentable at least due to their dependencies from patentable independent claims.

Newly added claims 21 and 22 have, respectively, similar features as amended claims 9 and 18. In these claims, the input signal is configured to be recorded as a video object (VOB) in unit of a video object unit (VOBU) including a real-time data information pack (RDI pack)

which is located at a leading portion of the video object unit (VOBU) and includes information indicating a start time of the video object unit as well as information indicating a recording time of the video object unit (VOBU). Similarly, none of Lynch and Miki uses VOB in the time slip mode wherein the VOB comprises VOBU including an RDI pack which has real-time data of VOBU start time and VOBU recording time as newly added claims 21 and 22. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 21 and 22 should be also patentable over Lynch in view of Miki.

II. Conclusion.


All matters having been addressed and in view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants' Counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. If any point remains in issue in which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the Undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number **03-3975**. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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